

## Winter Energy Saving Tips

---

1. **Adjust your thermostat.** The Department of Energy recommends setting the temperature at 68 degrees when you are awake and turning it down (about 10 degrees) while you are away or asleep. Be sure to never lower the temperature below 55 degrees to prevent frozen pipes.
2. **Use the sun.** Open blinds to let sunlight in during the day to heat your home. At night, close your blinds to trap the heat inside.
3. **Cover up air leaks.** Use plastic film on windows if they are leaking. Use door draft stoppers to keep cold air out.
4. **Cook comfort food efficiently.** Bake in batches and freeze extras. Cook your favorite soup and chili recipes in crock pots. Slow cooked food tastes great and uses less energy.
5. **Celebrate the holidays with LED lights.** If you decorate with lights, purchase LED lights and keep them on timers.
6. **Service your furnace/boiler and change furnace filters regularly.** This will ensure your unit is operating safely and efficiently.
7. **Use space heaters safely and efficiently.** Only have space heaters on when you are in the room and keep items around them at a safe distance.
8. **Bundle Up.** Warm clothes, blankets, and socks are key in the winter. Rugs are another great way to help your home feel warmer.
9. **Inspect and clean your fireplace.** Make sure your fireplace is safe. Close fireplace dampers when you are not using it to prevent heat from escaping.
10. **Redirect ceiling fans.** Switch the rotation of your ceiling fans to clockwise, operate at a slow rate, and push warm air down.



**CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD**  
Empowering Minnesota Consumers  
[www.cubminnesota.org](http://www.cubminnesota.org) [info@cubminnesota.org](mailto:info@cubminnesota.org) 1-844-MINN-CUB

---



## Look for the Energy Star Label to Find Energy Efficient Products

Energy Star was founded in 1992 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Energy Star has helped American homes and business save \$430 billion dollars on energy bills and led to the prevention of 2.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions!

- Energy Star certified products including lighting, heating & cooling, electronics, appliances, water heaters, commercial food service equipment, office equipment, and more
- Energy Star certified commercial buildings use 35 percent less energy than comparable buildings
- There are 1.7 million Energy Star certified new homes that are 15 to 30 percent more efficient than the average home
- Energy Star certified products generally use 20 to 30 percent less energy than what is required by federal standards
- There are more than 300 million Energy Star certified products as of 2015
- Energy Star certified products achieved a sales volume of more than \$100 billion in 2015
- Check the Energy Star website to find available rebates in your area